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RECEIVED DOCUMENTS

DOD Announces Plan to Cut Piaster Spending in RVN

Defense Department has announced a comprehensive plan to reduce DOD piaster spending in Vietnam as part of a FY67 government-wide program to lessen the impact of the military buildup there on the local economy.

In testimony before a House Foreign Operations and Government Information Subcommittee in mid-August, DOD projected a 53 percent reduction of piaster spending by individual servicemen.

Enlarging the range of PX products and services will be one of the means to reduce piaster spending by individuals.

A four-fold increase in the "Out-of-Country Rest and Recuperation Program" to provide in FY67 at least 250,000 individual trips is also addressed to diverting personal funds that would otherwise flow into the Vietnamese economy.

DOD also anticipates that personnel will spend fewer piasters when they begin to take advantage of the new Uniformed Service Deposits program that pays a 10 percent interest rate on overseas deposits.

The plan also calls for these actions:

- Relocating military personnel and civilian employees in private housing "to reduce or eliminate piaster rental expenditures."
- Deployment of military personnel to up-country locations away from urban areas and their market places.

The DOD report said that burgeoning demand generated by a rapid influx of U.S. personnel and facilities must not be allowed to outstrip the Vietnamese resources.

April '67 Completion Seen For Corregidor War Memorial

Completion of construction and dedication of a War Memorial on Corregidor Island in the Philippines is tentatively planned next April, the White House has announced.

At the same time, President Johnson announced reappointment of Emmet O'Neal as chairman of the Corregidor-Bataan Memorial Commission. Frank Hewlett and John H. Leims were also renamed as members.

MOVING OUT—Men of the 1st Marine Division load aboard helicopters of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 164 at Tam Ky. First Marine Aircraft Wing 'choppers and 1st Division Marines were participating in Operation Colorado, a search and clear operation in Southern I Corps area.

Capt. Donlon Receives Two Vietnamese Gov't. Awards

The first American serviceman to win the Medal of Honor for gallantry in Republic of Vietnam, Capt. Roger H. C. Donlon, USA, has received two of the Government of RVN's highest honors.

Presented by Ambassador of Vietnam to the U.S., H. E. Vu Van Thai, the awards were The National Order 4th Class and The Valiant Cross. Presentation was at the Vietnam Embassy in Washington, D.C.

The citation accompanying the awards referred to "indomitable gallantry and extraordinary courage" by Captain Donlon while defending an American outpost against a fierce attack on June 6, 1964, near Nam Dong, RVN.

"With his indomitable fighting spirit and extraordinary determination in the face of a fanatical enemy," the citation stated, "Captain Donlon has given an illustration of the tradition of gallantry of the Armed Forces of the United States of America in the fight against Communism in South Viet-Nam."

While in RVN Captain Donlon commanded a Special Forces "A" team of the 7th Special Forces Group. He is now attending the University of Omaha in Nebraska working toward a bachelor's degree.

Washington Memos

DOD'S PIASTER SPENDING plan calls for reducing O&M funding to limit hiring of local nationals. No new hires will be made except for critical replacements. Part-time employees will be eliminated.

USING MILITARY CANTONMENTS for quarters and office space also has a high priority in DOD's curb on piaster spending. When possible such space will be provided at such locations away from urban areas and the need to use the civilian market.

VIETNAM PIASTER CONSTRUCTION projects have been progressively reduced to rock and sand procurement. DOD has called for "austere review of facilities requirements looking toward elimination or consolidation wherever possible."

"HOT" AIR CONDITIONER that uses waste heat from gas turbine engines to power advanced air conditioners is under development by Army engineers at Fort Belvoir. Since the cooling system is designed for missile fire-control vans, use of turbines that power the electronic equipment leads to a simplicity saving 40 percent in size and 30 percent in weight.

IN PROCLAIMING THE week beginning Sept. 18 as National Highway Week, President Johnson said, "It is essential that Americans understand and appreciate the importance of highway transportation to their social and economic progress, and to the defense of our Nation; that they recognize the individuals and industries that have made our highway transportation system possible; and that they support and participate in programs to improve the safety and beauty of our highways."

3211th FIELD MAINTENANCE SQUADRON, Eglin AFB, Fla., was presented with an AF Outstanding Unit Award in mid-August. Squadron, one of four assigned to the Chief of Maintenance, was cited for performing meritorious service in support of military operations from Nov. 1, 1963 to Oct. 31, 1965.

THE BIG PICTURE, Army's weekly TV show, is switching to color this season. Army says the program now in its 16th year is presently telecast by more than 300 U.S. stations.

CAREER NAVAL OFFICER, pilot and Naval Academy graduate, Captain Waller C. Moore, has been named deputy director of the Federal Aviation Agency's Pacific Region with headquarters in Honolulu. Captain Moore succeeds Captain Hugh K. Laing who is retiring.

"FLORIDA SWAMP BUGGY," the shallow draft boat with aircraft engine and propeller that skips through the Everglades, is being looked at by the Army to see if a military version would be useful. Another shallow draft boat being tested uses a water-jet propulsion and carries a 2,000 lb. load at 20mph through nine inches of water.

CIVILIAN SCIENTIST ASTRONAUTS Owen K. Garriott, Edward G. Gibson and Harrison H. Schmitt received their Air Force pilot's wings in August at Williams AFB, Ariz. Trio were among 400 scientist applicants screened by NASA for space roles. NASA officials said they will receive additional training, including Cape Kennedy familiarization course in launch operations.

NYLON FOR SOLDIERS in the form of standard load carrying equipment such as pistol belts, canteens, etc., cuts weight of present water-absorbing cotton equipment in half. Troopers in Vietnam already have tested lightweight nylon rucksacks similar to Vietnamese Army models.

RELATIVELY NEW PROGRAM for rehabilitation of electronic data processing equipment magnetic tape is increasing reliability of this data source and simultaneously saving AF dollars. Conducted at 16 regional centers, tape testing is expected to produce annual savings of nearly $1 million throughout AF. Tape is tested for both permanent and transient errors. Permanent defects cause tape to be rejected; transient errors are corrected by cleaning and other rehabilitation.

AF RESERVE CHAPLAINS will have enlarged mission under new Continental Air Command program. Known as Chaplain Area Representative program, reserve chaplains not on extended active duty will be authorized to render a wide variety of chaplain services to military and retired military personnel, dependents, and reserve personnel.

INFORMATION SCHOOL GRADUATES sought by alma mater, Defense Information School at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind. DINFOS wants graduates of present school or the former school, known as Armed Forces Information School at Fort Slocum, N.Y., or Carlisle Barracks, Pa., to send in their names, addresses, current assignments, and year graduated. Graduates should also indicate if they would like to be on mailing list for School's quarterly publication.

IN JANUARY, AIR Force plans to begin selection of reserve officers and nonregular warrant officers for extended service beyond 20 years. Officials said some 2,000 officers with dates of separation in FY1970 are eligible under the 20-year active service career program.

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DOD Gives Details on Plan To Salvage Service Rejects

Pentagon officials have elaborated on DOD's plan to induct men who fail Armed Forces aptitude tests and to make them satisfactory military men.

The plan was first announced Aug. 23 by Defense Secretary McNamara, who said 40,000 men in this category would be accepted in FY67 and 100,000 during the next fiscal year and in each of the years thereafter.

Special Training Companies at Army basic training centers since January already have demonstrated that a low 1.5 percent "washout" rate could be achieved with so-called "slow-learners," officials explained.

These companies which employ a tutor-like system of as low as five students to one instructor are also in operation in the Marine Corps and the Navy.

By adding individually-paced extensions to the normal eight week basic training course, ranging from a few days to six weeks as required, officials believe the same success story can be repeated.

"They were not brain-poor at birth; but only privilege-poor, advantage-poor, opportunity-poor," was Mr. McNamara's earlier description of these men.

Officials stressed in their elaboration these points:

- Mental standards remain high in the Armed Forces, with 80 percent high school graduates versus the 70 percent national average.
- Opportunity for betterment always exists in the Armed Forces, demonstrated by 95,000 servicemen who receive high school diplomas or their equivalents annually through off-duty educational programs.

Changes made pertain only to mental standards. Physical standards generally will remain unchanged in FY67, officials said.

Navy Link in Satellite Communications Net at Sea

Satellite communications have gone to sea, linking the 7th Fleet in the South China Sea, via the USS Annapolis and the SYNCOM III, to the Pacific Fleet Commander and higher commands in Honolulu.

The first messages from the Annapolis, Navy's first major communication ship, flashed almost 50,000 miles into space in mid-August to hit SYNCOM III, located 22,500 miles above the Equator near the Gilbert Islands. SYNCOM then relayed them to Fleet Headquarters at Honolulu.

Navy hailed the event as making communications history by inaugurating "the first permanent shipboard operational link between the operating force afloat and a communication station ashore."

DFC FOR AF PILOT—Gen. Kenneth B. Hobson, USAF, Commander, Air Force Logistics Command, presents Distinguished Flying Cross and first Oak Leaf Cluster to Major Richard E. Allen, USAF, pilot who twice risked his life to silence heavily fortified Viet Cong gun emplacements. Ceremony was held at USAF Hospital, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, where Major Allen was recovering from wounds.

TAC Reorganization Creates Two New Centers in September

The Air Force announced that its reorganization of Tactical Air Command Centers will establish in September two new centers—a Tactical Airlift Center at Pope AFB, N.C. and a Tactical Fighter Weapons Center at Nellis AFB, Nev.

"The new centers will minimize temporary assignment of personnel and equipment which are not available for normal missions during temporary duty periods," a Pentagon announcement explained.

Co-located with an airlift wing at Pope AFB, the Tactical Airlift Center is also near the Army's XVIII Airborne Corps and the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, a location which will aid joint testing of equipment and development of airborne techniques and tactics.

The new Tactical Fighter Weapons Center at Nellis AFB will identify problem areas, test new equipment and develop new combat tactics in its new role as well as continuing combat crew training and fighter weapons school classes currently conducted.

The reorganization also expands operational testing and evaluation of tactics and equipment at the Tactical Air Reconnaissance Center at Shaw AFB, S.C.

The Tactical Air Warfare Center at Eglin AFB, Fla., continues testing and evaluating combat improving projects that require specialized facilities of the Air Force Systems Command at the base.

No change is contemplated at Eglin's Special Air Warfare Center.

69 Army Colonels Get Brig. Gen. Nominations

President Johnson has nominated to the Senate 69 Army colonels for promotion to temporary brigadier general.

Promotions from the list are expected to commence in October, officials said.

Eligibles included all colonels with date of rank in that grade on or before Dec. 31, 1964, and all colonels, as of June 30, 1966, whose basic dates for promotion purposes are on or before Dec. 31, 1943.

Members of the promotion board were Lt. Gen. John L. Throckmorton, Maj. Gen. William R. Shuler, Maj. Gen. Alexander D. Surles Jr., Maj. Gen. George V. Underwood Jr., and Brig. Gen. William B. Latta.

Selections were to be made on a best-qualified basis to meet the needs of the Army, without regard to branch, officials said.

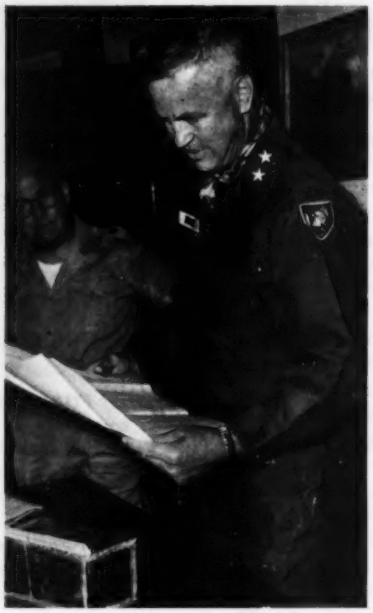
Missile Detection Radar Installed in Ohio

Installation of a "test bed" Sea Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM) radar detection facility has been announced by the Air Force Systems Command's Electronic Systems Division.

The facility will be used to develop an electronic system which will keep a protective "eye" on the coastal waters of the continental U.S.

The test bed facility will consist in part of a Semi-Automic Ground Environment (SAGE) System height-finder radar which was transferred from Naselle, Wash., to Cincinnati, Ohio, for modification. The radar's present orange section shaped antenna will be replaced by a full dish-type to allow it to perform both search and tracking. A data processing unit will also be installed and mated to the radar to handle SLBM information.

Six radars now being used in the SAGE System on both the East and West Coasts will also be modified to perform the SLBM function.



CORNERSTONE CONTENTS — Maj. Gen. Donald V. Bennett, (right), Superintendent, U.S. Military Academy, examines contents of metal box set in cornerstone of original Washington Hall in 1926. Washington Hall, the cadet dining hall, is undergoing extensive enlargement to acccommodate expansion of the Corps of Cadets. Looking on is Col. Charles R. Broshous, Director of Expansion Planning and Control Office.

Navy Plans Aquanaut Center in San Diego

Navy aquanauts assigned to the "Man-in-the-Sea" program will have a permanent home port and training facility at San Diego, Calif., in September.

Called the Deep Submergence Systems Project Technical Office (DSSPTO), the aquanauts' new home is located at the Submarine Support Facility, Ballast Point, San Diego, Calif.

"The technical office will provide curricula, schedules, and facilities for training present and future Navy aquanauts," the Navy said.

Initial staffing includes 10 officers and 33 enlisted men under Capt. Walter F. Mazzone.

Navy Communications Station Expands Role

The newly established U.S. Naval Communication Station, Puget Sound, Wash., is taking over a variety of general communications functions formerly performed by several activities.

Comprised of five components, the new command's headquarters is at Oak Harbor, with offices at the Seaplane Base, Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island.

Facilities under the new command include the U.S. Naval Transmitter Stations at Rocky Point, Whidbey, and Bainbridge Island; the U.S. Naval Receiver Station, Oak Harbor; and the message center, Naval Air Station, Seattle.

Kit-Form Armor Plating Developed for Vietnam Use

Additional armor plating for slow-moving construction equipment in Vietnam has been developed in kit form by the U.S. Engineer Research and Development Laboratories at Ft. Belvoir, Va.

Some 21 kits to protect the cabs of crawler-tractors, graders and loaders already have been shipped overseas.

Airport USO Opens

The first USO lounge open at any U.S. commercial airport of entry or departure for overseas assignments since World War II is now operating at San Francisco's International Airport.

The lounge is open around the clock to provide rest and relaxation for military travelers and their families.

Some 300 use the lounge daily, officials said.

The Red Cross, USO, City of San Francisco, Association of the U.S. Army, military services, and dozens of other groups in the Bay Area cooperated in a team effort to bring about establishment of the lounge, officials said.

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